

7 July 1976

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Key Issues in the KIQ-KEP Process

1. Should the KIQ-KEP process be discontinued because it adds nothing important to other processes for setting priorities, planning, budgeting, and evaluating? Or should KIQs be retained about as they are as a useful vehicle for conveying to the Community the DCI's principal substantive concerns, while the KEP is discontinued as essentially unworkable and useless?

2. If KIQs are to be retained, but altered:

a. Should they be relatively few in number and designed to point up key gaps in our knowledge? In collection or analysis, or both?

b. Should they be related only to key decisions that involve large resources?

c. Should KIQs be designed to focus existing intelligence resources on particularly important problems or to create new capabilities and activities?

d. Should the KIQs have community standing, say by coordination through NFIB, or should they be prepared unilaterally and issued in the DCI's name?

e. Should the KIQs be so designed that one can determine how far along the Community is toward satisfying them?

*How can you avoid it - - - presumed in designing KIQs for next period.*

1. *KIQ - for whom?  
whole question of consumers -  
Theater commands  
OSD?  
NSC?*

2. *By whom?  
(only national assets)*

3. *KIQs used as guidance for production... collection problem is, they are incomplete*

3. Does the NIOs' role end with the formulation of the KIQs, or does it extend to validating strategies and action plans, monitoring the execution of the plans, and certifying the final results?

*all the way, I think*

4. Should preparing KIQs be an annual exercise or a continuous process? How does their timing relate to the Programming and Budgeting cycles, in which resource decisions are made more than two years in advance?

5. How, more generally, do NIOs relate to the IC Staff?

*I'll just sit & listen to this*